

OREGON CROP WEATHER



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Conditions were again mostly warm and dry, except for some late week showers mainly in the Willamette Valley and on the Coast. All but four of the forty-three stations reported higher than normal temperatures this week, and the average across the State was 3.7 degrees above normal at 59 degrees. Low temperatures ranged from 48 degrees in Crescent City, down to 25 degrees in Burns and Christmas Valley. High temperatures ranged from 72 degrees in Bandon, up to 94 degrees in Medford. Overall, twenty-three of the stations reported a measurable amount of precipitation. Florence reported the most precipitation of 1.74 inches, almost an inch above normal. There were some thunderstorms along with some small fires reported in Harney County.

Field Crops: Fall field preparation and grass seed planting was in full swing this week in the Willamette Valley. Red clover seed and other specialty seeds were harvested in Lane and Marion counties. Silage corn harvest began in Lane and Yamhill counties. Recent rain was good for new fall plantings. Harney County reported the third cutting of alfalfa was winding down, although a delayed third cutting was just starting in Lake County.

Vegetables: Sweet corn harvest continued, about two weeks behind normal. Sweet corn yields were a little below normal. In Washington County, sweet corn harvest for canneries continued and pumpkins were ready for harvest. In Lane

County, squash and pumpkins were slowly ripening. Tomatoes were really starting to ripen. The rain was causing ripe tomatoes to split.

Fruits and Nuts: Hazelnuts were falling heavily in Washington County. Yamhill County reported some larger operations starting the first sweep of the hazelnut orchards. Pear harvest was taking place throughout the State with Hood River Valley reporting a moderate labor shortage for harvest. Apples, prunes, and Asian pears were nearly done in Washington County. Early apple varieties were good, while later varieties, such as red delicious, were still green. A couple warm days were good for grape growers. Spotted wing drosophila was showing up in small numbers but more wide spread in late raspberries and blackberries.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Plant care and irrigation of current stock and new starts continued. Some seasonal greenhouses were shutting down for the year.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Dryland pasture and range was dry. Producers were busy irrigating, weaning, and supplementing feed. In Harney County cattle were being gathered from forest and rangeland allotments. Lake County also reported that producers would soon begin gathering livestock off of desert allotments. Livestock, including buffalo and horses, were still doing well.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 10/02/11

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	25	40	35	0
Subsoil	20	41	39	0

Crop Condition - Week Ending 10/02/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn	0	0	14	85	1
Range and pasture	19	27	28	23	3

Crop Progress - Week Ending 10/02/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	85	77	100	98
Winter wheat planted	29	20	52	49
Winter wheat emerged	10	-	18	18
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	6.7	6.3	6.3

Western Oregon

CURRY: Almost an inch of rain fell this week, but it is so dry that we need 3 or 4 inches to really make a difference in pasture conditions. Pastures were still mostly done for the season.

DOUGLAS: Another dry week with decent temperatures. We have just about caught up with the Growing Degree Days of 2010. Of course that was a very cool year too, but crops at least finished well. Last October was nice through the first three weeks for wine grape harvest, and hopefully there will be a little more heat and some dry time for 2011. Pear harvest was starting to kick in and early apple varieties were being harvested too. Field crop cultivation was going well, as was liming of fields. Wheat planting picked up with more moisture in the forecast.

JOSEPHINE: There was a wide range of overnight temperatures of 38 – 62 degrees. Daytime temperatures were in the 70's - 80's. Gusty high winds at times throughout the week indicating change of weather. There was light dew in the early morning a couple of days, and a trace of rain Friday. Saturday we had heavy dew morning and evening. Harvesting continued. Grape growers were watching weather closely. It was a very delightful week with the change in the atmosphere, fall has arrived.

LANE: Growers were busy preparing fields and planting grass seed and other field crops. The last of the red clover seed and other specialty seed was being harvested this week. Intentions are to increase grass seed plantings and have less winter wheat compared to the past two years. Sweet corn harvest continued to be about 2 weeks behind and silage corn harvest was getting underway. Sweet corn and silage corn yields are a little below normal. Hazelnut harvest was forecasted to have a late start this year with crop yields predicted at average. It has been a tough year for tomatoes. The rain was causing ripe tomatoes to split, like cherries, due to the moisture. Tomatoes were

really starting to ripen. Early apple varieties were good and later varieties, like red delicious, were still green. Bartlett pears were still hanging on, with a long harvest and many dropping pre-maturely due to weather. Spotted wing drosophila was showing up in small numbers but more wide spread in late raspberries and blackberries; they were not as bad in strawberries and blueberries this year. Squash and pumpkins were slowly ripening, not quite ready yet.

MARION: Red clover seed harvest finished up as rains came. Fields were getting worked for fall plantings.

WASHINGTON: A couple of warm days were experienced last week, which was good for grape growers. Predictions for the coming week were cool and wet, which is not good for grape ripening. Grape brix levels were still a couple weeks behind. Perennial rye grass and wheat seeding was on schedule and progressing well. Irrigation for most farms was essentially finished. Grass tilled up and lime applied, all small grains harvested. Field corn was hardening and grass for seed was beginning to recover from harvest. Sweet corn harvesting for canneries continued and pumpkins were ready for harvest. Everbearing blueberries continued to produce. Filberts were falling heavily, walnuts were close to maturity. Apples, prunes, and Asian pears were all nearly done. Buffalo calves were looking good. Cows and horses were doing well. High temperature of 77.4 degrees and a low of 42 degrees. There was 0.4 inches of rain fall. Mostly cloudy the last few days of the week.

YAMHILL: Corn silage harvest started this week. Hazelnuts are dropping and even some of the large operations have started the first sweep of orchards. The recent light rain was good for the new fall plantings, and next week's forecast looks even better for them. However, this forecast is not good for wine grapes.

Eastern Oregon

HARNEY: On October 2, thunderstorms occurred throughout the County. A few fires were reported throughout the County as well. Temperatures have dropped to mid 70's throughout the day and evening temperatures continued to drop. Cool nighttime temperatures occurred early in the week. A few scattered storms pushed through late in the week, bringing windy conditions and only trace amounts of precipitation. Cattle were being gathered from forest and rangeland allotments. Weaning operations were in full swing. Third cutting of alfalfa hay was winding down.

HOOD RIVER: Fair weather prevailed through the week. Winter pear harvest continued in the lower Hood River Valley and got under way in the mid valley.

Growers experienced a moderate labor shortage for harvest.

LAKE: Did not receive any precipitation this week. Livestock producers will begin gathering off of desert allotments during the next few weeks. Cool, wet weather during spring delayed alfalfa harvest, the majority of producers were just starting to harvest third cutting.

UNION: Conditions continued to be dry and warm with very cool nights.

WALLOWA: Range conditions were very dry, moisture was definitely needed. The forecast shows rain next week.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: October 2, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria	45	79	58	+2	56	+13	1.23	0.36	5	3.05	-0.12	96	12
Bandon ⁸	46	72	59	+4	68	+25	0.78	0.28	4	1.03	-0.81	56	6
Crescent City	48	74	61	+4	76	+23	0.22	-0.34	2	0.22	-1.70	11	2
Florence	43	79	58	+0	59	+3	1.74	0.96	4	2.09	-0.63	77	7
North Bend	45	75	60	+3	69	+18	0.45	-0.09	3	0.50	-1.46	26	4
Tillamook	41	81	59	+4	64	+24	0.71	-0.38	3	1.93	-2.15	47	8
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	45	84	60	+3	74	+20	0.66	0.17	4	1.00	-0.95	51	10
Corvallis	41	81	59	+2	67	+11	0.69	0.27	4	0.86	-0.77	53	6
Detroit Lake ⁸	43	86	60	+8	71	+41	0.45	-0.19	3	0.62	-1.83	25	5
Eugene	40	84	61	+2	77	+14	0.18	-0.24	2	0.26	-1.53	15	3
Hillsboro	39	83	60	+3	71	+21	0.17	-0.25	2	0.29	-1.34	18	6
McMinnville	40	83	61	+4	81	+25	0.31	-0.17	3	0.60	-1.18	34	7
Portland	47	81	62	+3	84	+19	0.38	-0.04	3	0.73	-1.14	39	8
Salem	43	82	61	+4	78	+24	0.47	0.05	4	0.71	-0.96	43	6
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	45	90	63	+3	94	+17	-	-0.28	-	-	-0.98	-	-
Medford	45	94	67	+7	119	+42	-	-0.21	-	0.01	-0.91	1	1
Roseburg	47	93	64	+4	100	+28	0.11	-0.17	2	0.12	-1.10	10	3
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	36	82	56	+4	46	+15	0.03	-0.11	1	0.03	-0.74	4	1
Echo ⁸	39	78	60	+3	69	+13	-	-0.07	-	0.04	-0.42	9	1
Heppner	40	79	59	+3	64	+16	0.02	-0.17	1	0.05	-0.81	6	3
Hermiston	34	79	59	+2	67	+11	-	-0.07	-	0.04	-0.42	9	2
Madras ⁸	36	83	58	+4	55	+15	-	-0.09	-	-	-0.58	-	-
Moro	38	78	57	+2	48	+10	-	-0.09	-	-	-0.58	-	-
Parkdale ⁸	35	77	55	-2	34	-11	0.12	-0.16	2	0.22	-1.00	18	5
Pendleton	38	81	60	+2	69	+11	0.01	-0.13	1	0.03	-0.60	5	2
Prairie City ⁸	36	83	58	+4	55	+15	-	-0.09	-	-	-0.58	-	-
The Dalles	42	82	62	+8	86	+44	0.01	-0.08	1	0.03	-0.56	5	2
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	27	81	53	+2	26	+3	-	-0.19	-	0.04	-0.65	6	1
Bend	34	84	57	+5	47	+21	-	-0.07	-	-	-0.49	-	-
Burns	25	85	57	+7	49	+28	0.05	-0.06	1	0.05	-0.55	8	1
Christmas Valley ⁸	25	87	54	-2	30	-12	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.62	-	-
Klamath Falls	33	84	57	+3	52	+11	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.59	-	-
Klamath Falls ⁸	34	84	58	+3	54	+13	-	-0.14	-	0.02	-0.57	3	1
Lakeview ⁸	31	85	57	+5	54	+20	-	-0.19	-	0.04	-0.65	6	3
Lorella ⁸	32	86	57	+3	55	+14	-	-0.14	-	0.02	-0.57	3	1
Redmond	32	91	58	+5	55	+23	-	-0.07	-	-	-0.43	-	-
Worden ⁸	28	82	53	-2	31	-10	-	-0.14	-	0.03	-0.56	5	2
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	29	86	55	+3	53	+24	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.78	-	-
Joseph	37	85	58	+11	61	+45	0.02	-0.33	2	0.04	-1.42	3	3
La Grande	32	90	56	+2	55	+13	0.40	0.17	2	0.41	-0.60	41	3
Imbler ⁸	34	89	60	+8	74	+40	-	-0.28	-	0.05	-1.11	4	2
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	39	88	65	+8	106	+51	-	-0.09	-	0.14	-0.43	25	1
Rome	37	92	64	+9	96	+55	-	-0.12	-	0.05	-0.57	8	2

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2011.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.